

## Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-10

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TAGS: MARR, JA

SUBJECT: JAPANESE PRESS TRANSLATIONS FOR MONDAY, 24 MARCH 1975

FOLLOWING SENT ACTION AIG 8700 R 240539Z MAR 75 FM COMUSJAPAN  
YOKOTA AB JAP REPEATED FOR YOUR ACTION

QUOTE

SUBJ: JAPANESE PRESS TRNSLATIONS FOR ONDAY, 24 MAR 75.

USF

REDUCTION OF SASEBO NS ACTIVITIES: (TOKYO SHIMBUN, 23 MAR)-ON

THE 22ND. THE JDA AND DFAA REVEALED A NEAR

GREEMENT BEING REACH-

ED WITH THE USF OVER A LARGE REDUCTION OF THE U.S. NAVY ACTIVI-

TIES A SASEBO WHICH WILL INCLUDE THE FOLLOWING POINTS: (1) RE-

TURN OF THE TATEGAMI BASIN, (2) CLOSURE OF THE SHIP REPAIR

FACILITY AND RETURN OF DOCKS NOS, 1-2, (3) RETURN OF NIMITZ

PARK AND THE CP BUILDING, AND (4) PULL-OUT OF THE TENDER SHIP

REDUCTION OF THE NAVY SASEBO ACTIVITIES AND THE U.S. HAS DECIDED

DOWN-GRADE SASEBO TO THE STATUS OF A RESEVE BASE (JANDLING

AMMUNITION AND FUEL SUPPLIES ONLY) WHILE MAINTAINING YOKUSUKA,

OKINAWA (NAHA AND WHITE BEACH) AND SUBIC (PHILLIPPINES) AS KEY

BASES FOR ITS FAR EAST STRATEGY. TIME OF RETURN OF THESE

FACILIIES WILL BE IN JUNE THIS YEAR AND THE AMERICANS ARE EX-

PECTED TO PRESENT A SASEBO REDUCTION PLAN FORMALLY TO THE JAPAN-

U.S. JOINT COMMITTEE BY THAT TIME. THE USS IS THIS GOING TO

RETURN THE TATEGAMI BASIN AND THE SHIP REPAIR FACILITY BUT THEY

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HOPE THE SDF WILL TAKE OVER THE CONTROL OF THESE TWO FACILITIES

SO THAT THE AMERICANS MAY USE THEM AGAIN IN AN EMERGENCY IN THE FUTURE. ALTHOUGH RETURN OF THE TATEGAMI AREA AND DOCKS NOS. 1-2 IS A LONG CHERISHED DESIRE OF THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY WHICH PLANS TO CONVERT SASEBO INTO A COMMERCIAL SEAPORT, THE JDA WILL PROBABLY INSIST ON (EXCLUSIVE) MSDF USE OF ABOUT ONE HALF OF THE 9 BERTHS AT THE TATEGAMI BASIN SINCE THEY WANT TO UTILIZE FULLY THE SASEBO FACILITIES (THE MSDF PRESENTLY USING THE SASEBO NAVAL FACILITIES AS A "TENANT") FOR THE DEFENSE OF JAPANESE MAINLAND SEA AREAS. REGARDING DOCKS NO. 1-2. AFTER THEY ARE RETURNED BY THE USF, NO. 1 WILL BE RELEASED TO SSK (A LOCAL INDUSTRIAL FIRM) AND NO. 2 WILL BE PLACED UNDER JOINT USE OF THE MSDF AND SSK. THUS, THE IMMINENT USF RETURN OF SASEBO FACILITIES DOES NOT SEEM TO CONTRIBUTE TOTALLY TO THE LOCAL MUNICIPALITY PLAN FOR A COMMERCIAL SEAPORT AND FUTURE PROCEEDINGS AT THE JAPAN-U.S. JOINT COMMITTEE WILL AROUSE ARGUMENTS (AMONG THE JAPANESE PEOPLE) AS THE TWO PARTIES STUDY TERMS FOR THE USF RETURN. NARCOTIC SMUGGLERS: (TOKYO TIMES, 23 MAR)- THE SKIPPER OF A USN AMPHIBIOUS TRANSPORT SHIP (WHICH IS BERTHING AT YOKOSUKA NOW PRESENTLY) HAS REFERRED 13 OF HIS 448 CREWMEN, INCLUDING TWO OFFICERS, TO COURTS MARTIAL ON SUSPICION OF NARCOTICS CONTROL LAW VIOLATIONS, NEWS OF (YOKOSUKA) REVEALED ON THE 21ST.

N-PACT

(MOT PAPERS, 22-23 MAR)- IN HIS CONGRESSIONAL TESTIMONY ON THE 21ST, SECRETARY OF DEFENSE SCHLESINGER SAID U.S. TROOP WITHDRAWAL FROM NORTHEAST ASIA WOULD INCITE JAPAN TO HAVE N-WEAPONS. THE STATEMENT IS TAKEN AS A REPLY TO A CONGRESSIONAL PRESSURE FOR A REDUCTION OF U.S. TROOPS IN THE ROK AND, AT THE SAME TIME, AS A WARNING TO JAPAN WHOSE RATIFICATION OF THE NPT IS DELAYED THE U.S. STATES DEPARTMENT HAS STRESSED, HOWEVER, THAT IT DOES NOT SEE THE POSSIBILITY OF JAPAN BEING N-ARMED IN THE NEAR FUTURE AND THAT THE U.S. GOVERNMENT'S POLICY TOWARD JAPAN HAD NOT BEEN CHANGED (TOKYO SHIMBUN, 20 MAR) - ON THE 19TH, SEN. SYMINGTON TOLD A SENATE SUBCOMMITTEE THERE IS THE POSSIBILITY OF JAPAN BEING TEMPTED TO JOIN THE N-CLUB IF OCCASION REQUIRES. SYMINGTON SAID JAPAN PLANS TO PUT INTO OPERATION 70 N-REACTORS DURING THE 10 YEARS HENCE AND THIS WILL PROVIDE JAPAN WITH THE CAPACITY OF PRODUCING SEVERAL THOUSANDS OF N-WEAPONS ANNUALLY.

DEFENSE

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(YOMIURI, 23 MAR)- THE JDA HAS SUCCEEDED IN A FIRING TEST OF DOMESTICALLY MADE SHORT RANGE SAM. AFTER FURTHER TECHNICAL EXPERIMENTS, THE JDA PLANS TO DEPLOY THE NEW MISSILE TO GSDF BASES BY 1980. (MAINICHI. YOMIURI, NIHON KIZAI, 22 MAR)- ON THE 21ST, THE DEFENSE ACADEMY HELD A GRADUATION CEREMONY (19TH OF ITS KIND) AT A GYM OF THE SCHOOL IN YOKOSUKA CITY. IN HIS ADDRESS, PRIME MINISTER MIKI STRESSED THAT THE WAR-RENOUNCING JAPANESE CONSTITUTION DOES NOT DENY SELF-DEFENSE

FORCE AND THT THE ARGUMENT AGAINT SELF-DEFNSE FORECE IS NOT  
REALISTIC.

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